REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 27, 2007. Claims 1-27 were pending in the application, and the Examiner rejected all claims. With this amendment, claims 1, 3, 5-7, 11, and 21 are amended, claims 8, 16, 18 and 19 are canceled, and the remaining claims are unchanged in the application.

The Examiner, in the above-mentioned Office Action, rejected claims 1-3, 5, 7-18, 20, 21, 23 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Field et al. (GB2 364 850).

On page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected the remaining claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 using Field et al. as the primary reference and in view of well-known prior art (with respect to claims 3 and 21) and further in view of St. John (W0 01/16936) with respect to claims 6, 19 and 22. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection.

The only art that the Examiner cited for using speaker identification models that are trained with acoustic data to identify speakers of an input utterance was "well-known prior art", and the Examiner took Official Notice of this element. Applicant specifically traverses the Official Notice.

Of the rejected claims, claims 1 and 21 are independent claims. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the voice data processor is a non-server based voice data processor and also to clarify the desired information processed by the voice data processor. Claim 1 has been amended to include that "the desired information including speaker identification information, acoustic information, voice message content, and speaking rate information, the augmented VM data comprising: speaker identity of the speaker of the voice message obtained by the voice data processor accessing a plurality of acoustic speaker identification models and obtaining the speaker identity based on the speaker identification information; speaker emotion based on the acoustic information, a voice message summary generated from the voice message content, and a speaking rate obtained by the speaking rate information…".

Claim 1 has also been amended to clarify the configuration of the user interface component. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to state "the user interface component providing a display that displays the speaker identity obtained from the speaker identification

models, the speaker emotion, the voice message summary, and an adjustment user interface element that is actuable to adjust the speaking rate of payback of the voice message; and...". Further, claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the voice data processor also includes "a rate normalization component configured to receive the speaking rate information and normalize an associated voice message to a pre-selected speaking rate."

Claim 1 is simply neither taught nor suggested by any of the references cited by the Examiner. None of the references teach a non-server based voice data processor as set out in claim 1, nor do they teach a system that extracts the desired information mentioned and processes that information to obtain the speaker identity generated from acoustic speaker identification models, the speaker emotion, a voice message summary, and a speaking rate. Further, the references simply do not teach or suggest a user interface component that is configured to display these items, along with an actuator that allows the user to adjust the speaking rate of the voice message being played. This is simply neither taught nor suggested by any of the references cited by the Examiner.

Applicant specifically traverses the Examiner's Official Notice that speaker identification models are well-known, particularly acoustic speaker identification models that are trained based on acoustic speaker information. Applicant submits that this is neither taught nor suggested by any of the references cited by the Examiner, nor is it well-known in the combination set out in claim 1.

Independent claim 21 has been amended to clarify that for new voice messages just received at a non-server based processor, during runtime, the processor processes the messages by "extracting acoustic features from the new voice message and accessing acoustic speaker identification models to obtain speaker identity identifying a speaker of the new voice message, the extracted data further comprising acoustic features indicative of other desired information, and a textual representation of a content of the new voice message...". None of the references, either alone or in combination, teach such speaker identification models, nor do they teach that such models are used by a voice data processor in processing voice messages to obtain a speaker identity associated with new messages. Further, none of the references teach this in a non-server

based processing system. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 21 is allowable.

In conclusion, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 21 are allowable over the references cited by the Examiner. To the extent the Examiner has taken Official Notice of any of these items, Applicant respectfully traverses that Official Notice. Applicant further submits that dependent claims 2-7, 9-15, 17 and 20, which depend from independent claim 1, and dependent claims 22-27, which depend from independent claim 21, are allowable as well. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-7, 9-15, 17 and 20-27 are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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